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VOL. II NO. 195

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1947.

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SMALLPOX SCARE

Bilston, Staffordshire, May 20.
A 27-year-old woman died of smallpox in an isolation hospital today and two new patients were admitted as police hunted for other persons believed to be carriers of the dread disease. Suspected carriers disappeared from a boarding house in Barnsley in neighbouring Yorkshire after they had been quarantined. Two hundred children and 60 mothers were quarantined in 84 Helen Hospital at Barnsley. One of the mothers gave birth to a baby yesterday. The Ministry of Health in London said that no epidemic existed and deaths had not exceeded three throughout the country in the last month.—United Press.

Tory And Liberal Peers Promise Support For Socialists' Bill

Conservative and Liberal Peers in the House of Lords tonight pledged themselves to support the Labour Government's bill to bring Britain's inland transportation under state control when it is given its second reading tomorrow night, but they made it clear that they intended to give it the careful scrutiny they missed when the bill was "guillotined" through the House of Commons a few weeks ago.

REBUILDING OLD TOWNS

Govt. Plans Approved

London, May 20.
The British Government's plans for the reconstruction of old towns, providing open spaces for overcrowded areas and allocating land for new houses and factories, were given a final approval by the House of Commons tonight by 297 votes to 126.

"This bill marks the stage where planning leaves the negative principle and goes to the positive," Mr. Fred Marshall, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, said tonight as he wound up the third hearing debate.

The bill, which still has to go to the House of Lords, will revolutionize the existing system of land tenure, according to the Government, and deprives land-owners of the right to build on their land unless the building is in accordance with planning requirements.

NO FURTHER PROFIT

The owner will no longer be able to make a profit when the value of his land has increased through building development. The bill gives the Government the power to take over land needed for its plans and to pay compensation according to the development value of the property.

(Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Our Filthy Money

HONGKONG is possessed by many urgent needs, but none more pressing than the issue of new coinage. The filthy, discoloured, germ-laden small notes daily inflicted on everybody are beyond a joke. More and more they represent a liability; tattered specimens become unusable because, when next taken out of the pocket, they are merely remnants, while their adhesive tendencies enable them, bus and ferry travellers to be short-changed. From a health aspect the notes are a menace. Never popular, Hongkong's small notes have become a nauseating affliction which repels and infuriates the public. Government has a responsibility in this matter which it cannot be allowed to shirk. For the last 20 months the community has patiently suffered itself to handle the dirty and crumpled bits of paper that pass for five-cent, ten-cent and one-dollar notes. The time has now come for some coinage that can be used without causing contamination. The alternatives open to Government are

King May Make Appeal To Indian Leaders

Full Cabinet Meeting Friday

London, May 20.
The Evening Standard said today that King George as Emperor of India may make a direct appeal to Indian political leaders to resolve their differences.

The India Office disclaimed knowledge of any such move. The spokesman said it would be most unusual for a King to "appeal" to his subjects, but added that these were unusual times and none could foretell accurately what might happen.

The Viceroy of India, Viscount Mountbatten, is a guest of the King at Buckingham Palace during his stay in London and presumably has informed the King on the progress of his conferences with the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

The Evening Standard said the King would ask Indian leaders to agree on a future constitution for independent India, so that the handing over of power by Britain in June next year may be done smoothly.

"If an appeal is made," the dispatch said, "it will take the form of a written message which the Viceroy will read at the opening of the round-table conference at the Vice-Royal Lodge in Delhi on Monday, June 2."

Lord Mountbatten has told the King that the administrative machine in India must break down in the next few months unless the Indian leaders reach a speedy decision.—United Press.

BLUEPRINT APPROVAL

London, May 20.
The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, is authoritatively learned, will summon a meeting of the full Cabinet on Friday to seek its approval of the final blueprint of the Viceroy, Lord Mountbatten's, plan of procedure for the transfer of power for the Delhi Conference on June 2.

New British Foreign Policy Forecast

Paris, May 20.
The Paris newspaper, Le Monde, which often reflects French Foreign Office views, forecast tonight a sensational change toward the East in Britain's foreign policy, due to Britain's shortage of American dollars.

The dollar shortage was obliging Britain to make purchases outside the United States, the paper said. The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, also desired not to increase the tension with Russia before the November Four-Power conference on the German peace settlement, Le Monde added.

Recent speeches of Mr. Bevin have shown that he considers success of the conference to be indispensable and that success will result only from conciliation which he would like to practise from now on, the paper said.

It was a question of developing trade between the two countries, notably in Russian lumber, of which Britain has great need for her reconstruction. In return for British machines, Le Monde said, a good Russian harvest also might provide Britain with wheat, it added, although it could not amount to much. "It is absurd to think that Russia could supplant the United States in this."

U.S. THE FEEDER

"America for years to come will remain the feeder of the world. Pleasing or not, it is true and British should accept it, with other nations."

The evening paper L'Intransigeant said that Britain is contemplating strengthening her imperial defence lines in Africa. "Britain's interest in Africa seems to confirm the fact that, being incapable of assuring protection of the Suez and eastern Mediterranean, she is thinking of transferring Africa her imperial line of defence," the paper said.

"This in mind, she envisages the development and modernisation of the Dark Continent, including irrigation, cultural amelioration, industrial construction, building of roads, establishment of military bases on the western and Atlantic coasts and the raising of the standard of living of the native populations."

"This vast project necessitates close co-operation with France and Belgium whose African possessions are particularly important."

Rugby League Results

London, May 20.
Results of Rugby League games today were: Batley 12 Castleford 0. Keighley 37 Bramley 11.—Reuter.

Food Rushed To Freighter

Brisbane, May 20.

Food was rushed in launches today to the 4,290 ton Hongkong freighter Inchkeith, which is stranded on Mangrove Island off Lucinda, North Queensland, as 49 Chinese members of the crew were reported to be running short of rations.

The freighter is still in four feet of mud in which she got stuck on Sunday when sailing from Hongkong to Sydney.

It is hoped that she might refloat on the high tides at the end of May, but it is considered doubtful whether her cargo of sugar will be sufficiently lightened by then.—Reuter.

GERMANS TOLD TO STOP GRUMBLING

Must Work For Food

Berlin, May 20.
The British and American military governors, Air Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas and General Lucius D. Clay, told the German people tonight to stop grumbling and demonstrating and get to work if they wanted the food and economic conditions improved.

In a joint statement, the Governors pointed out that Germany's war of aggression was the direct cause of the present food crisis. They told the Germans that the United States and Great Britain for two years had been bearing the cost of supporting them.

"Grumbling and apathy will not bring better days for Germany," the proclamation declared. "Brave acceptance of responsibilities, hard work and courage in the face of present

adversities will alone achieve future well-being."

Air Marshal Douglas and General Clay termed as "childish" efforts by some German officials to blame the Allies for the food shortage. They said such gestures as refusal to carry out their duties and to stage demonstrations, "particularly in working hours" could have no influence on better imports.

INSUFFICIENT EXPORTS

Stressing that German indigenous production was insufficient to meet requirements in the two zones and had to be supplemented by imports, the joint statement said:

"German exports are quite insufficient to pay for these and the cost has for two years been borne by the United States and British governments. Nevertheless, this cost, though great, has not resulted in any reduction in imports and continuous efforts have been made to obtain maximum supplies from overseas." The announcement called attention to the fact that although German rations seem meagre, they were but little below the rations of most Western European nations.—United Press.

Perfect Total Eclipse Of Sun: 4-Minute Darkness

Rio de Janeiro, May 20.
The total eclipse of the sun was observed under perfect conditions by United States and Brazilian scientists at Bocalua and for at least two of the vital four minutes by the Russians, Swedes, Finns and others at Araxa today.

Observations were "perfect," according to the chief of the United States expedition, and the entire mission there was described as 99 percent successful.

The Russian expedition at Araxa would not comment on their observations, but the Canadian scientist, James Hargreaves, who promised to do some of the work planned by the ill-fated British expedition—they were killed in an air crash at Dakar while on their way out—reported that he had obtained one photograph of the sun's corona.

Observations designed to check part of Einstein's theory of relativity were one of the principal objectives of the American party, and these were 95 per cent successful, it was stated.

For this study a specially-built telescope with a 20-foot focal length, photographed the stars behind the sun. The instrument will be left here for some months until the stars are in the same position but without the sun, when they will again be photographed.

If Einstein is right that light rays are bent when passing close to matter, the stars will appear to have shifted, and the Americans will measure this shift, giving a check on the theory.

Only two of the scores of scientists at the American camp actually watched the eclipse. The rest, over-cast, against the cold as the sun "died," pored over instruments, making mechanical observations, in total darkness.

FALSE DUSK

As the shadow of the moon crept across the face of the sun a false dusk fell upon the earth. Birds slept in the trees, the stars came out, and in cities in the broad belt of the eclipse street lamps were turned on. For four minutes there was darkness over the earth broken only by light from the stars and from the giant flames leaping into space from the sun's corona.

Natives in area where the scientists were taking observations—one of the most desolate spots on earth—resolutely refused up to the very last moment to believe what the scientists told them about the eclipse, clinging to their assertion that the American encampment was connected with atom bomb tests.

The owner of one of the largest farms in the area wrote a letter to the American camp commander saying:

EXPENSIVE OBSERVATION

Some twenty nations spent \$200,000 in setting up equipment worth many thousands of dollars in the savage wilderness of central Brazil—judged the likeliest place for good observation weather on the 104-mile path of celestial shadow moving from Santiago, Chile, north-east across South America to Salvador, Brazil, and away over the South Atlantic to West Africa.

A Finnish scientific expedition at Acacia, sixty miles from Accra on the African Gold Coast, reported that the eclipse was well observed here. In Acacia itself rain clouds obscured the phenomenon. Clouds prevented direct observation of the eclipse in the central zone of Chile, but scientists flew above the cloud level to make recordings. House and street lamps were lit in Rio de Janeiro and Santiago during the totality period.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

Eight Years For Gracie

John Kenneth Gracie was sentenced to eight years hard labour at the Supreme Court this morning when he was found guilty on charges under the Defence Regulations of assisting the enemy by anti-Allied broadcasts.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty without retiring.

Pleading for mitigation on behalf of accused, Mr. A. Lonsdale, Crown Counsel, asked the court to take into consideration Gracie's excellent record in the 1914-18 war, when accused was severely wounded. Gracie also had the unique honour of being made a King's Corporal in the field.

BRITISH FLOOD RELIEF FUND

THE FUND WILL CLOSE
ON 31ST MAY

Already acknowledged
(Per "H.K. Telegraph") \$239,456.45
American International Underwriters 1,000.00
International Assurance Co., Ltd. 1,000.00
Hongkong Hotel Garage Underwriters Bank 1,000.00
J. Arthur Duff 500.00
Charles Duff 500.00
O. Sadler 50.00
Lai Im Tong 50.00
Richard Shim 50.00
H. G. W. Woodhead 50.00
E. E. Brindley 50.00
Savak Minoo Chandra 100.00
VI. Kalle, Mag and Em. (In memory of Mrs. Alda Remedios) 15.00
From Anne (In memory of Cpl. H. Lacey, H.K.V.D.C. 21-5-42) 10.00
£40-0-0...and... \$244,849.45

Donations should be addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Morning Post Building, Hongkong. Cheques should be made out to "British Flood Relief Fund." For the purpose of acknowledgment will donors kindly indicate their names in Block Letters.

SOUTH AFRICANS WELL BEATEN: FINE WIN FOR SUSSEX

London, May 20.

The MCC beat South Africa by 168 runs at Lords today after promise by the tourists that they would make a closer fight.

The MCC declared at the overnight score, which meant that the South Africans had all day in which to make 357 runs if they were to win. Mitchell and Dyer engaged in the tourists best first wicket stand since the tour, but were parted at 66 and by lunch time two more wickets had fallen for an addition of only ten more runs.

This left the South Africans behind the clock, but when Melville joined Mitchell the pair began to pull the game round with a partnership of 64. Once Melville went however, the end was in sight against the accurate spin bowling of Cook and Allee Bedser.

Mitchell continued to hold on and for a spell towards the close of the afternoon he began to attack the bowling to such good purpose that he scored 30 runs in about 20 minutes. Mitchell, who finished with not out 103, could find nobody to stay with him, however, and at the tea interval the South Africans with three wickets standing were still 181 runs short of the necessary total. Those remaining wickets fell to Cook soon after tea for only two runs and he came out with the fine figures of six for 44.

Results Of County Games

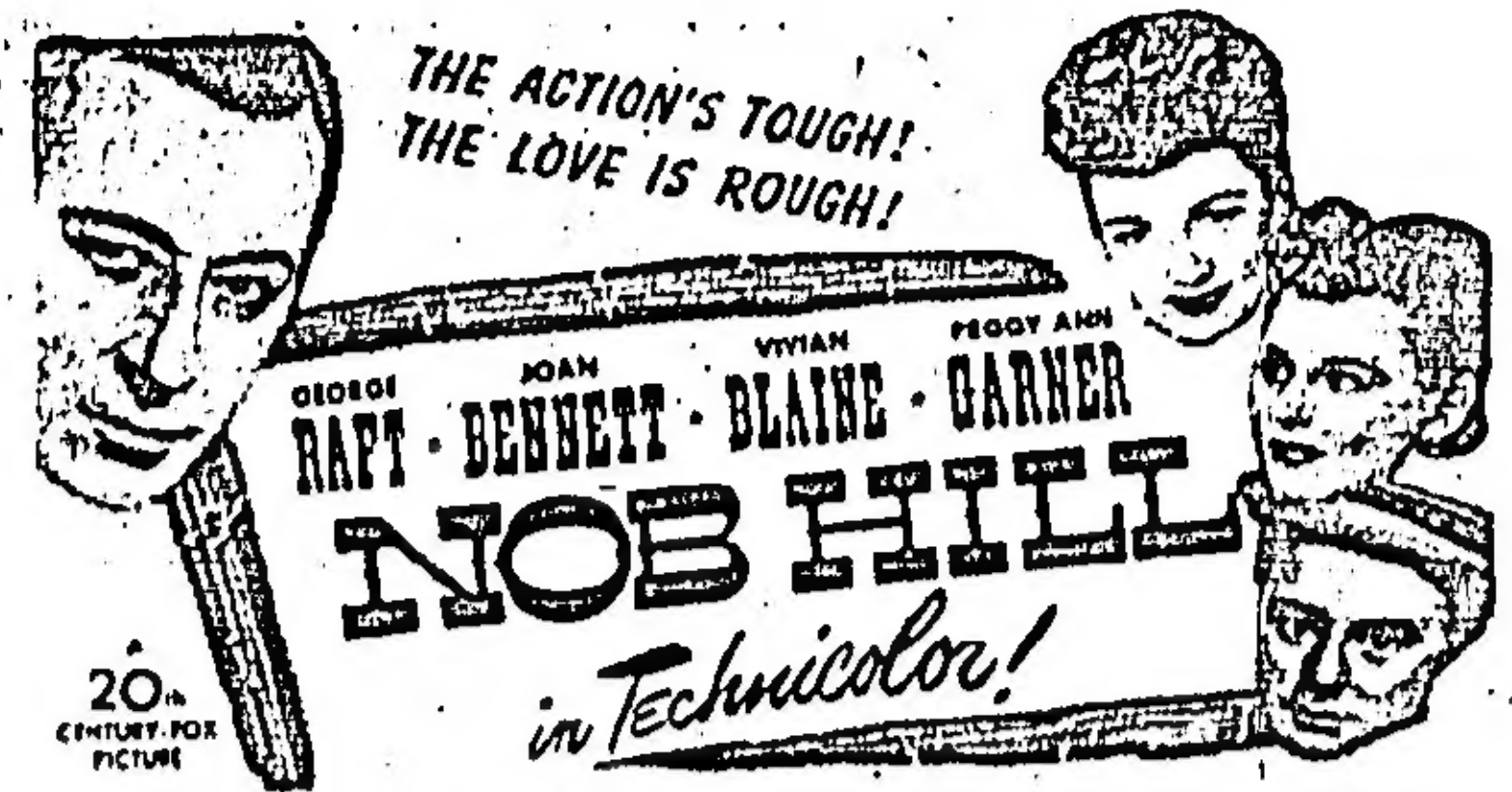
The final scores were: MCC 230 and 253 for four declared. South Africans 127 and 108 (Mitchell not out 103, Mitchell 40, Bedser three for 40, Cook six for 44).

At Birmingham: Middlesex beat Warwickshire, by an innings and nine runs. Warwickshire 200 and 243. (Dollery 110, Taylor not out 60, Young six for 58). Middlesex 452 for five declared.

At Bradford: Sussex beat Yorkshire by three wickets. Yorkshire 147 and 209. Sussex 176 and 170 for seven (John Langridge 52).

At the Oval: Surrey beat Somersetshire by 207 runs. Surrey 300 for seven declared and 267 for three declared (Squires 64, Barling not out 59, McIntyre not out 59). Somerset 105 and 105 (Meyer 50, Gover seven for 47).

At Chesterfield: Derbyshire beat Worcestershire by two wickets. Worcestershire 235 and 116. Derbyshire 284 and 118 for eight. At Huddersfield: Essex tied with Northamptonshire. Northamptonshire 251 and 201. Essex 207 and 230.—Reuter.

TO-DAY
ONLY**QUEEN'S**At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 P.M.Sonja Cornet
HENIE & WILDE**"WINTER TIME"**with Jack OAKIE * Cosar ROMERO
and Woody HERMAN and His Orchestral
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
— OPENING TO-MORROW —**CENTRAL**

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

**ORIENTAL**COMMENCING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.20-7.20-9.20 P.M.
Loaded with Laughter! Sprinkled with Songs! Gorgeous with glamorous Goldwyn Girls... And Danny Kaye funnier than ever!**ALHAMBRA**

NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

**STAR THEATRE**TO-NIGHT AT 8.30 P.M.
BOOKING HOURS: 12 p.m.—2 p.m. & 5 p.m.—7.30 p.m.
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Every Wednesday in the Telegraph:

Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

AMONG the half-dozen readers of this column how many can put his hand on his heart and say: "I have never sneered at Old Moore Gubbins, the world-famous astrologer?"

Not one, I expect.

Of course, I don't blame you. In this age of wise guys and smarties it is the fashion to sneer at those who read the future in the stars.

In ancient times when people knew what they were doing and where they were going they were more humble about these things. They were simple enough to believe what wise men told them.

If he had taken the advice of the astrologer millions of lives would have been saved. There would have been no food shortage, no fuel shortage, no housing shortage.

No whisky shortage, either. Not that it matters, of course.

WHAT would have happened if Shiwell had consulted Old Moore Gubbins last summer?

O.M.G. would have taken him straight to the fles in our office, pointed out the prophecy made in March 1944, told him about the weather in 1947, and then taken him out of the office for a quick one.

If Shiwell could have remembered what it was all about by the time he got back to the Ministry, everything would have been bang on, wizzo and oick deicks.

Coal would have been saved by rationing domestic fuel in the summer, the wheels of industry would have been going flat out, and you and I would not be the blue-nosed, unhappy creatures we are today.

If Shiwell wants any advice in the future he has only to ring up and ask for Nat.

Letter from a Wolf

DEAR SIR,
As a constant reader of your column may I once again trespass on your valuable space to air a grievance which has caused great resentment among thoughtful wolves all over the wolf-inhabited world?

We have noticed with growing dismay that the term "wolf" is being applied with greater frequency each year to any male of the human species who pursues women for a purpose too obvious to be described here.

We can only assume that the term originates from the fact that we hunt or pursue, our prey with the utmost determination, overcoming difficulties, ignoring danger, and enduring hardship with a relentless single-mindedness of purpose which, in some circumstances, is to be admired, in others to be deplored.

We believe that the circumstances in which we pursue our prey are to be admired.

A. This time of the year we are literally starving, sometimes for days, occasionally for weeks on end. Nobody offers us food. We can't do any work with our paws. We are shut out.

So we are forced to hunt for our living in the worst possible conditions, often showing the greatest bravery, unarmed against armed men.

Therefore we greatly resent having our name applied to men who hunt their prey in warm cocktail bars, risking nothing but a snub.

We also resent the fact that their motives are identified with ours. After all, we only want to eat our victims.

We also think that now may be the proper time and here the proper place to draw attention to the exemplary moral lives led by wolves.

This may be due partly to our hard circumstances, but we prefer to believe it is because, among wild creatures, there is a strict moral code, which civilised man, in the misery of his complicated existence, finds hard to follow unless he imposes upon himself the severest self-discipline.

We can only say that she wolves in all packs are treated with the utmost respect and that if any wolf behaved like a man he would be torn to pieces.

Hoping your wife and family enjoy good health as mine do at present.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A Wolf.

Diary of a Worm

CHEERFUL worm-delayed in suburban train held up by frost arrives home four hours late. Explains to wife he might have been little earlier except that he stopped at low tavern to have couple of beers with witty worm friend before facing walk home in snow. Witty worm friend very funny about debates in Parliament, worm explains, still giggling.

Oh, so that's where worm has been, has he? While wife was worrying about poor worm stamping feet in freezing train worm was really in front of blazing fire in low tavern pouring out money which might have been spent on new curtains for freezing pig-sty where wife has been snowbound for six weeks.

Of course, wife might have known that selfish worm would look after himself while others suffered for incompetence of worm's dirty Socialist Government. It was just like worm to vote for dirty Socialist Government and talk about virtues of dirty Socialist Government till wife was sick of hearing about them, and then when dirty Socialist Government brings country to brink of ruin for worm to escape consequences.

Wife can understand why worm is dirty Socialist. Worm is dirty Socialist because worm has no brains or initiative and expects to be kept in idleness and luxury by State. Moreover, worm is probably jealous of proper men like gas manager who have got on in world through hard work and thrift, who manage to catch trains that are not frost bound, and sit down behind new curtains for proper dinner at seven with bottle of wine on table and proper fire in grate.

No doubt petty, jealous worm is looking forward to day when enterprising men like gas manager are nationalised and brought down to level of worm and low, cadging friends.

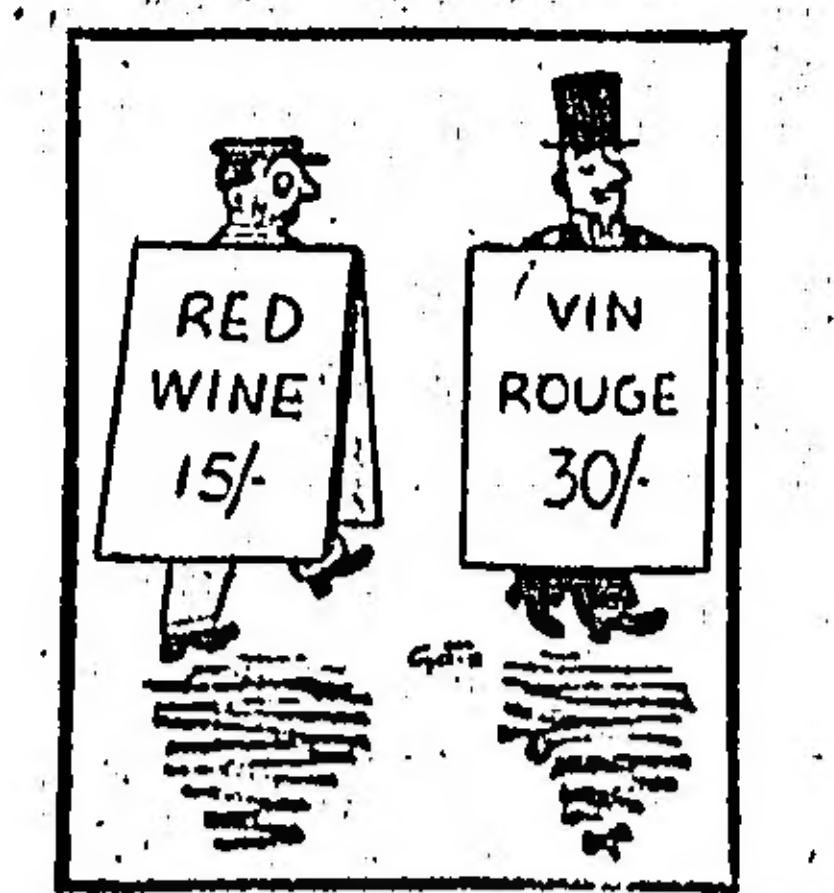
What wife can't understand is how worm, who is supposed to believe all men are brothers and equals, can throw away money like millinaire in low tavern with witty worm friends who are no doubt dangerous Communists spending Russian gold, while brothers and equals are trudging home in snow or shivering before empty fireplaces eating frugal supper in overcoats.

So far as wife can see worm isn't even proper Socialist. Wife can't remember worm ever making clever speech or being able to stand up for two minutes in political argument with gas manager, who has world affairs at finger tips, while worm, who would be laughing stock of local council, is content with low tavern politics, throwing away Empire over glass of beer.

If worm had any push and go worm might have been Member of Parliament instead of being at beck and call of every Tom, Dick and Harry in City. Worm might even have been Cabinet Minister and got £5,000 a year for throwing Empire away instead of doing it for nothing.

One day worm will be fired from office boy's job in City or arrested by police for sedition, and wife who has worked fingers to bone trying to make home out of pig-sty will end up in gutter while worm is in prison dreaming of Utopia.

POCKET CARTOON

**BY THE WAY**

by Beachcomber

THE recent terrible hailstorm in Sydney reminded me of an adventure of my own.

Years ago I was walking in the Tatra Mountains, on the borders of Czechoslovakia and Poland. It was a lovely summer day, but the sky suddenly darkened, and to my amazement, great hailstones, which really hurt when they hit me, came hissing down. I sheltered under a rock, and it was soon over. They were the largest hailstones I ever saw. By the time I got down to Zakopane, they were as big as golf balls. In Cracow they had grown to the size of cricket balls. At Czenstochowa I was comparing them with footballs. Now, when I look back, and remember my youthful powers of exaggeration, I sometimes wonder whether they were really as big as small marbles.

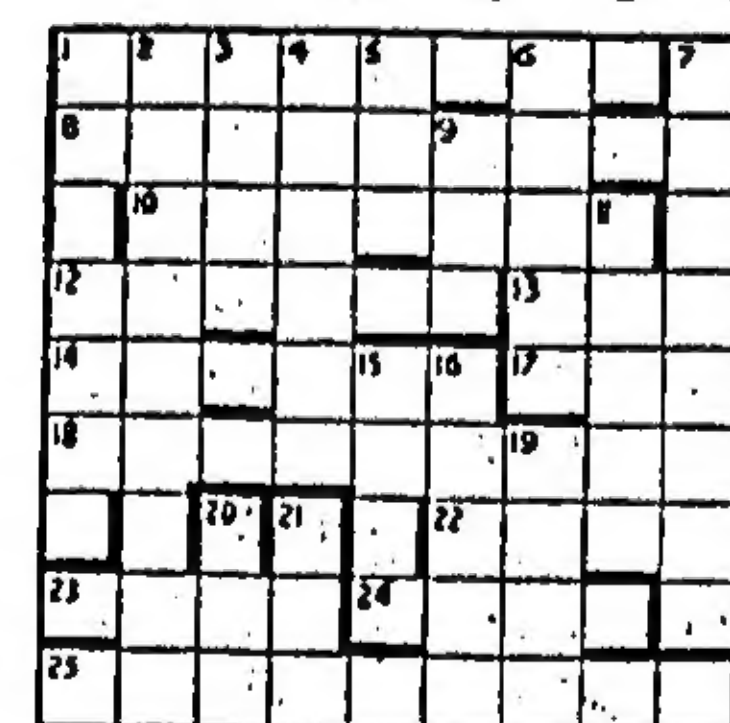
Murder of an elephant

(VIII)

MALPRACTICE went through the College kitchens like a tornado, and was in time to surprise a strange conversation in the pantry. A steady-looking man was offering a sum of money for something wrapped in newspaper. "Who are you?" thundered the scullion. "Malpractice," said the man. "What are you doing?" "Trying to buy a bit of stuff for Bradell and Ruckley." "A bit of stuff? What stuff?" "A bit of elephant's tusk. The firm makes billiard balls." At that moment a cook entered the kitchen, shouting, "Oh, boy! Oh, boy! Will this make a tasty dish? Malpractice sprang forward and snatched an enormous lump of meat from the man's hand. One glance told him that it was the thigh of a full-grown elephant. He dashed back to the Master's house, burst in, and roared in a steely voice, "I arrest you for the murder of Bingo, the elephant!" The kindly old man glanced up from his Hesiod. "I'm too old to murder elephants," he said. "I confine my activities to eating them." "One must supplement the rations."

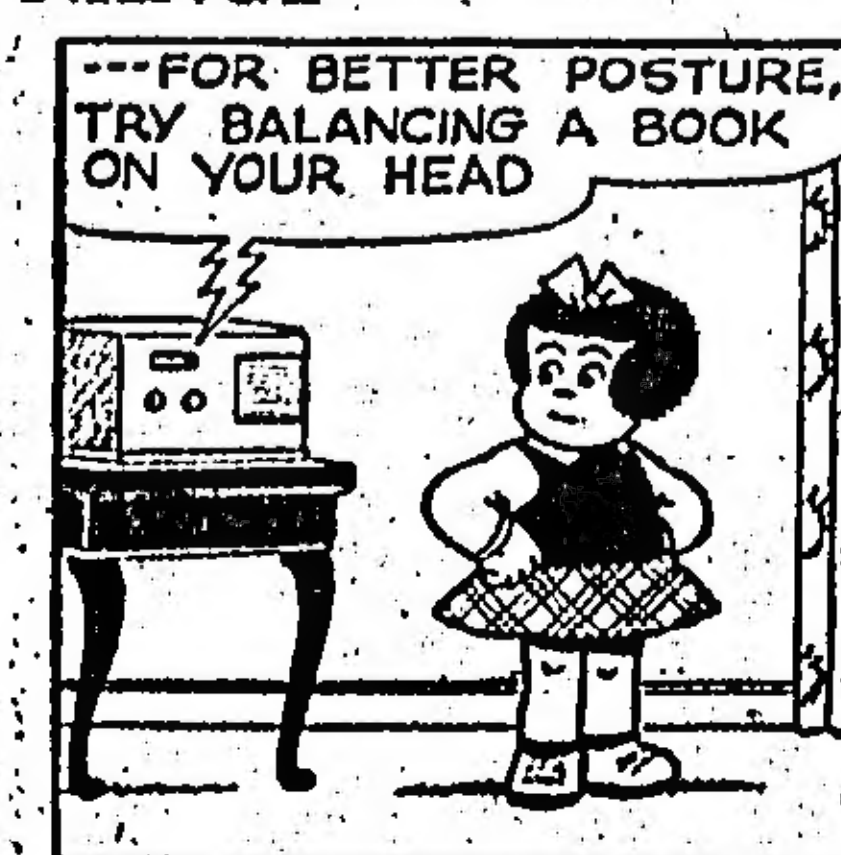
Financial note

MANY people are asking why discount houses, holding maturities, have had to begin selling short bills. The reason is that the calling in of funds has been only temporary, so that the credits outstanding are more than counterbalanced by the demands for money. Erratic price movements abroad are always followed by a downward trend in the rate applicable for payments, as to mail transfers and buying rates here.

CROSSWORD

1. Tonight's the night in Scotland. (10)
2. You can get a lead rope from it. (6)
3. Famous actress: showing how a napper breaks up the scene. (7)
4. Euphemism without bustle for a citizen. (6)
5. Exclamation. (3)
6. A graduate breaks into the name and provides a strenuous pastime. (10)
7. She's in the green afternoon. (10)
8. Sort of liquor you get from the mirror. (10)
9. Existence. (4)
10. Just a wee coin. (4)
11. This year while in more senses than one. (4)
12. They are children. (9)

1. Gives an unbiased political report. (7)
2. Belonging to the entire Christian Church. (9)
3. Nowadays often follows a smash. (10)
4. Withdrawn from the Cape Town races. (5)
5. A letter to Nora is the making of him. (6)
6. Shelter. (3)
7. Head of Eisenhower's speech. (10)
8. Tackle. (4)
9. Animal. (6)
10. Starter in the horse race. (4)
11. Bird in a bewitched state. (3)
12. Often ends up in a dig. (10)

DUMB BELLS**NANCY** And Put Zeal into It!

Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Edith Head designs Dramatic gowns.

"DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

"Dear Lois Leeds—Please suggest a dramatic outfit for a tall girl. It's for a smart dinner party."
—V. B.

Why not take the gown (above) designed by Edith Head of Paramount studios for your inspiration. It is of black jersey, long-sleeved, and high-throated. A wide hip sash sweeps around the body, holding a wide expanse of embroidered black organdie. Dramatic jewellery aids in the dramatic effect. Loretta Young wears this gown in "The Perfect Marriage."

"Dear Lois Leeds—Will oil darken my hair? It's very light."
—GOLDIE.

If you use hot oil the night before your shampoo and shampoo there-

Mimie Makey
& GABRIELLE



This season be a Pretty You! You can so easily. All makeup shades are on the Pink and Pretty scale. Soft fills at the shoulders, beads around your throat, flower-laden hats. Your Personality should be keyed to the "pretty you!"

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"You were telling everybody at the party last night how easy housework is—now how about trying some of it?"

Italy's Merchant Navy Climbing To Half Of Prewar Tonnage

Italy's merchant marine, 50 percent destroyed in the war, will be back to half its strength by June, and the present rate of progress on reconstruction of ports will contribute further to the revival of the shipping industry. Approximately 3,000,000 tons of Italian shipping were sunk during the war. At the end of July 1946, the merchant fleet numbered a little less than 500,000 tons, but by six months later officials reported the fleet had grown to 800,000 tons.

Happy As Airline Hostess

Chinese airline hostesses are as efficient as American girls, in the opinion of Miss Bera G. Ohman, Pan American World Airways hostess who spent five days in Shanghai during a pause of the PAA Clipper flight-proving the Orient routes.

A former artist of the Walt Disney studios, Miss Ohman avers she has no regrets leaving Donald the Duck and Mickey Mouse. "I've never been so happy in my life," she said of her air hostess work.

Now in her seventh month as a PAA hostess, Miss Ohman is considered a veteran in her line of the service. "In our job," she explained, "you last only six months before getting married." She added: "Looks like they (PAA) are going to have me for a long time."

Likes Meeting People

The pretty American hostess, who hails from Los Angeles, admitted that the art life probably isn't her cup after all. She said she likes meeting new people and seeing new places. "I'm a sort of vagabond," she explained.

Describing her impressions on her first visit to Shanghai, Miss Ohman said that many of the things in the city are a source of wonder to her. It was a couple of days before she got used to prices quoted in six figures. After a quick mental conversion to U.S. dollars, she usually said, "That's cheap," or "That's reasonable."

Among Miss Ohman's first purchases in Shanghai was a velvet Chinese gown, which she wore to a Chinese dinner given in her honour.

Of Chinese food, the PAA hostess' comments can be paraphrased, "Yum, yum!" She said that "with such a variety of delicious food" foreign dishes "just don't rate."

Miss Ohman surprised her host by mastering chopsticks in the clocked time of five minutes.

BRITISH TRADERS FOR JAPAN

Japan's "Buckingham Palace" will probably accommodate some 40 British businessmen who are reported to be standing by in England ready for the reopening of Japanese foreign trade to private business.

Emperor Hirohito, in the course of a talk with General MacArthur, is said to have offered the use of Akasaka Palace—known better as Buckingham Palace owing to its design—to foreign businessmen.

The first of these businessmen, however, will be members of the American trade mission who are due to arrive in Tokyo soon to discuss with General MacArthur's Headquarters details for reopening private trade.

The date still has not been announced, although unofficial reports from Washington suggest it will be July 15.

Mr. A.D.F. Gascoigne, head of the United Kingdom Liaison mission, interviewed by Reuters, said he was at present not in a position to comment on this issue, but intimated that the interests of British businessmen by no means have been forgotten but are being considered on the highest levels.

Canada Buys Radium

Ottawa, May 18. Radium and radium necessities valued at approximately \$1,000,000 are being purchased by the Canadian Commercial Corporation, a Crown company, acting on behalf of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, as a gift from Canada to hospitals and medical institutions in Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, China and the Russian Ukraine.

Mr. W. D. Low, the Corporation's Managing director, has announced that contracts are being placed with Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited. Payment will be made from the \$134,000,000 total that Canada donated to UNRRA—Associated Press.

Italy is counting heavily on the arrival of Liberty ships purchased from the United States. The total tonnage will rise to 1,300,000 when these ships are placed in service and by June, the government hopes to see more than 50 percent of the wartime losses made good.

While the fleet is being rebuilt, every effort is being made to keep port reconstruction going. The general situation is considered "good," and special facilities are being granted to shipbuilders, who are overworked trying to meet foreign orders.

Some of Italy's biggest ships such as the Saturnia, the Vulcania and the Principessa Giovanna are again sailing under the Italian flag. Another six were recently returned by the Argentine Government.

Italy's fate as a shipping nation, however, depends also on the condition of her ports. Genoa, Naples, Bari and Ancona suffered heavily during the war and facilities, while improved, are still far from normal. Genoa has made perhaps the most rapid strides toward reconstruction. During 1946, 2,000,000,000 lire was spent to rebuild the port. The port authorities recently announced that complete rehabilitation would be achieved in 1947.

By the end of last year, Genoa was handling 80 percent of its pre-war shipping figure. Officials said the tonnage would have been even higher if maritime and coal strikes in the United States had not held up shipments to Italy.

Clearance of Wreckage

Naples, giving special preference to ships bearing coal, petroleum and food, has also shown great progress in reconstruction. The major problem to-day, as it is in other ports, is clearance of wreckage from the harbour.

Ports along the Central Adriatic coast are in a more serious condition. Ancona is the only true port, the others being small harbours used primarily by the smaller craft but highly important to Italy's internal economy because of the hinterland they serve.

Ancona lost most of its technical equipment during the war and the harbour was badly blocked by wreckage. Appeals have been made for increased government aid to rebuild Ancona because of needs of the immediate area as well as the provinces of Marche, Abruzzi, Umbria and parts of Lazio, Emilia and Tuscany which derive goods from this centre.—United Press.

THE BRITISH LEGION

President To Retire

Major-General Sir Frederick Maurice, President of the British Legion since 1932, will vacate the office at the National Conference to be held at Douglas, Isle of Man, on Whit-Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, May 25, 26 and 27. Thus, of the 26 years since the Legion was founded, he has been President for 15.

Writing in the May number of the British Legion Journal, Mr. T. F. Lister, first chairman of the Legion, tells how Sir Frederick played a leading part in the foundation of the movement, by the amalgamation of rival ex-Service organisations.

Illustrating the very great interest which Sir Frederick took in resettlement of ex-Service men, Mr. Lister tells this story:

"On one occasion he told Legion Headquarters that they must draw a cheque for £1,000 in favour of the Admiralty, because that morning he had negotiated the purchase of six war vessels."

Staggering Idea

"In view of this we consider that the Relief Department, but the vessels were for the purpose of a ship-breaking scheme, on which over 100 ex-Service men were to be employed at Plymouth."

"Incidentally, all the money expended was returned to the Relief Fund out of the profits of the enterprise. Rather characteristic because Sir Frederick generally showed a good business instinct, and believed that money subscribed could be used more than once for the benefit of ex-Service men."

Mr. Lister recalls that Sir Frederick for the establishment of a university, at the request of the Foreign Office to see Hitler.

IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCARD ENGLISH

"It is impossible to discard the use of English, if it is intended to acquire a higher standard of education in Malaya," says a group of educationists from Singapore Chinese schools in a memorandum which is being airmailed to the London Committee on Higher Education in Malaya.

This is the only memorandum to be forwarded from Singapore Chinese schools, and the group comprises the Singapore Chinese Schools Federation, the Singapore Chinese Teachers Association and various Chinese School Committees. "The population of Malaya is composed of peoples of different racial origins, and each of the latter has a distinct culture of its own. If the object of a Malayan University is to provide for opportunities of developing the cultures of the different communities, then there should not be any negation of their best cultural traditions," the report states.

Local Recruitment

"In view of this, we consider that matriculation to the University should be based on passing an examination in subjects connected with the candidate's own language and culture."

"In the case of Chinese candidates especially, the standard required in Chinese for matriculation should be that of Senior III in the Chinese high schools. "The Malayan University will provide training for youth who will serve the country."

"Therefore, the tutorial as well as the staff should, as far as possible, be recruited from among the local people."

The memorandum also urges that facilities be granted in the proposed university for the study of Eastern languages, and asks for the study of oriental history and culture as special subjects.

Finally, it praises the step taken for the establishment of an university as a progressive move and source of encouragement to the various communities of Malaya.

Completing Peenemuende Destruction

Peenemuende, off the Baltic Coast, former island paradise, which Hitler converted at the cost of 250,000,000 into a fantastic workshop of death, where he planned to win the war with an army of 11,000 slave workers toiling to turn out V weapons at the rate of 100,000 a year, is today a wilderness of destruction, writes Eric Bourne, Reuters' special correspondent. Masses of twisted steel, huge shattered slabs of concrete, piles of rubble and gutted buildings are all that is left of the great rocket arsenal with which Hitler might have won the war but for the heavy delaying blows of RAF Bomber Command in the summer of 1943.

Peenemuende is at the northern tip of Usedom, 12 miles long narrow island about 60 miles northwest of Suedin. The site was chosen in December, 1935 by Professor Werther von Braun and General Dornberger, head of the German army's rocket research department. Most of the key scientists and technical experts were evacuated before the Peenemuende experimental station was overrun by the Russians. With two other British correspondents, I examined the ruined mysteries of this island. We three were the first non-Russian Allied personnel allowed to set foot there since the place fell to Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's army in the spring of 1945.

Russian Demolition

The Russians readily assented to our inspecting whatever we wanted to see. A year ago it was being said that the Peenemuende experimental station was working again as a "secret testing ground" for Soviet V weapons. The Russians had erected new barracks and workshops and set up new camouflaged firing points, it was claimed.

Our inspection revealed that the Russians, in fact, have been and are rapidly completing the process of destruction begun by British bombers.

The Russians plan to finish the demolition programme some time in June. "When we have finished there will be nothing left at all," Major Vasiliev, commandant of the Peenemuende area, told us.

Major Vasiliev said that the RAF destroyed 70 percent of the Peenemuende installations. The Russians are blowing up the remainder. "The Germans took more than five years to create this place," he added. "The RAF knocked it out in ten hours."

DIVORCE PLEA

A divorce plea on cruelty grounds was granted by a Louisville (Kentucky) Circuit Judge after he read a 31-year-old woman's deposition. She asserted that her husband showed his dislike for certain dishes by pitching "the food on the floor," that he "put a pistol in my ribs" and also dragged her out of an automobile by her hair. She clarified her deposition by saying that her husband had a "mean temper."—United Press.

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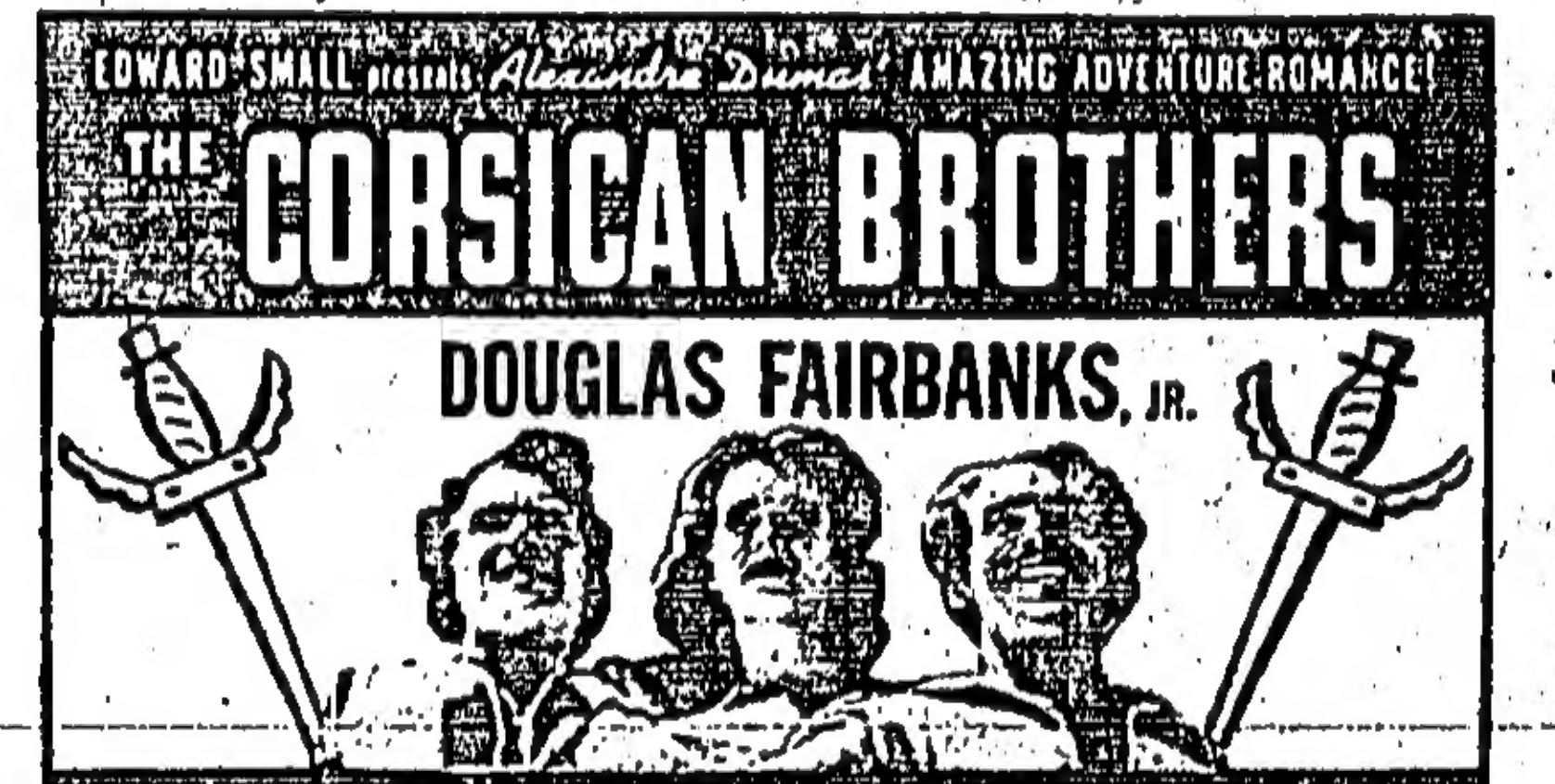
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